

SECRET

IP/PH-72/25
11 Aug. 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CIA Archives and Records Center

SUBJECT : Evidence of Rust in Microfilm
Storage Cans

1. We have just had returned to us for destruction the microfilm copies of the STAR VM Processing for June 1971, which has been replaced by the 1972 annual update. On opening the metal cans in which the microfilm was contained, we have found the cans to be severely rusted (a sample is enclosed), with rust extending to the metal reels and in some cases flaking onto the microfilm itself. It indicates to us that the temperature and particularly humidity conditions in Records Center are insufficiently controlled to meet standards for the storage of microfilm. The rusting may have been accelerated by the fact that the film in question is Kalvar, and the National Bureau of Standards has advised that vesicular film gives off gasses under high humidity conditions which cause rusting to occur. This may account for such excessive rusting in the short space of one year. Be that as it may, we believe that the situation requires immediate attention.

25X1 2. Since the adverse conditions may have affected magnetic tape as well as microfilm which other components may have in storage, I have called the Chief of IS/DIS/O as well as [redacted] of Printing Services Division to advise them of our discovery, and am notifying the Chief, Information Services Division, and the Special Assistant for Information Control by separate copy of this memorandum.

[redacted]
Chief, IS/IP/PH

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WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
AND METHODS INVOLVED

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